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Charles Smith to George Washington, August 27, 1758, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM CAPTAIN CHARLES SMITH.

FORT LOUDOUN, Aug 27th. 1758.

DR. SIR/ I have inclosed you three Weekly Returns Wherein you will se what strengt I am off, at this time.

there is one Christopher Hencely a Deserter from the First Virga. Regt. I have taken up. he promises for the time to come to be a very Dutifull Soldier but did not Imagin any officer would a meddled with him, as he had been out of the servis so long he Left us with Six more from the Dunkers just before the Scrummage at the Great meadow.

by a Letter yesterday from the Governour wherein he says you inform'd him that I had about 20 £ left with me to finnish the Well & to Close in the Buildings, the Miners Account is come to more than that sum all ready but still we continue for the want of water makes Duty very hard, as I am still ordered to carry on the well I Imagin you know best how the Blacksmiths is to come at thier Parts as their Parts runs pretty high.

Hardwick was here Yesterday & tels me there is a Worst Prospect this Year for a Crop as ever he see, I Persuaided him if he had not constant work for the Negroes to set some of them to cuting of Wood for the Iron Workes.

we have no News here worth Relating as I Refaire it to the Papers sent up.

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the Raingers still Keep on the Scout & has not Put them in my Weekly Returns to you but shall take Your advice before I send to the Governour as he thinks it necessary as They Should Guarde the Stors but Let Duty be Ever so hard I would sooner have them away than shuch a Grumbling.

so many men being Sick in this Garrison as I am Oblig'd to Advance a Prety Deal for Doctrs. Medisens & other Necessary — as they cant Possibly do without — some with the Flucks Rumatics Fits Sore Leggs, & the Foul Deseas it cant be suppos'd that these men can be sav'd. without sufficient care taken of them and I being not a gudge the Doctrs. may Impose on me, as they think Proper.

I have no more to ad as all Friends is Well believe I am Dr. Sr. Your Friend & very Hhbl. Servt. CHAS SMITH